

Submitter: Mary Jo Mann
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or HB4105
Topic:

I am opposed to HB 4105 because it is expensive and a waste of taxpayers money. The bill will create a new right for timber companies, counties and tax districts to sue Oregon Dept of Forestry , which potentially will create unnecessary litigation. It potentially will limit ODF's ability to manage state forests for all Oregonians' needs and values. Additionally limiting who has the right to sue may be unconstitutional.

HB 4105 is an Expensive waste of taxpayers' and ODF time and money
Leads to increased litigation. The bill would create a new right for timber companies, counties and tax districts
to sue the ODF for alleged violations of the timber harvest rule, creating endless litigation and limiting the
ODF's ability to manage state forests for multiple values. Further, limiting who has the right to sue may be unconstitutional.

This bill is expensive. Based on 2025 fiscal impact estimates from an identical bill, implementation would require \$1.1 million of initial funding to start this program. The new right to sue the ODF would also cost the state significant resources in ODF and DOJ staff time and legal fees, estimated to upward of ten million dollars per biennium.